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93-253

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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May 12, 1994

RECEIVED

IN REPLY REFER TO:

JUN 17 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Honorable J. James Exon
United States Senate
528 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Exon:

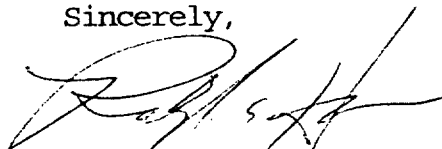
This is in reply to your letter of January 25, 1994, on behalf of your constituent Mr. William D. Dendinger, Manager of Hartington Telephone Company. Mr. Dendinger is concerned that licenses for the larger blocks of personal communications services (PCS) be auctioned first to allow the larger licensees to absorb start-up mistakes that he expects to occur. Mr. Dendinger also took issue with the Commission's proposed definition of rural telephone companies, that they serve no community having more than 2,500 inhabitants. Your letter was referred to me as Chief of the Personal Communications Systems Task Force for the Commission.

On April 20, 1994, the Commission adopted (but has not yet released) a Third Report and Order regarding narrow band PCS, and a Fourth Report and Order regarding interactive video data service (IVDS). The Commission stated that for narrow band PCS, it would first auction the ten available nationwide licenses. Subsequently, it will auction thirty regional licenses. Finally, the 360 major trading area (MTA) licenses and 984 basic trading area (BTA) licenses will be auctioned. With respect to IVDS, the Commission will auction licenses that cover population centers first, followed by licenses for the less populated, or rural, areas.

In the Commission's Second Report and Order, adopted March 8, 1994, the Commission concluded that the 2,500 inhabitant standard for rural telephone companies would be unnecessarily restrictive. It determined that, for the purposes of spectrum auctions, rural telephone companies must not serve communities with more than 10,000 inhabitants, and they may not have more than 50,000 access lines.

We are confident that the measures the Commission has adopted will help enable rural telephone companies to provide personal communications services to rural customers.

Sincerely,



Ralph A. Haller
Chief, PCS Task Force

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2702

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION
BUDGET

January 25, 1994

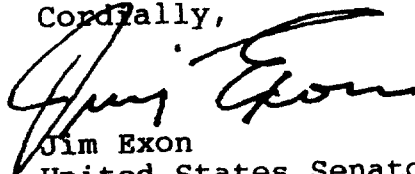
Federal Communications Commission
Congressional Liaison
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Sir:

To ensure that the views of my constituent are made a part of the official record, I am enclosing a copy of the recent letter I have received from Mr. William Dendinger regarding PP Docket no. 93-253.

With best wishes.

Cordially,



Jim Exon
United States Senator

Enclosure



HARTINGTON TELEPHONE COMPANY



Phone 254-3901
Hartington, Nebraska 68739

December 28, 1993

95 JAN -2 PM 3:08

Mr. William F. Caton, Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: PP Docket No. 93-253

Dear Mr. Caton:

I am writing to express concerns with some items in the summary of position of independent telephone companies for the above reference proceedings. If you do not have a copy, please advise.

I believe the largest blocks should be sold first for the following reasons. The small companies do not have the market size to absorb start-up mistakes in technology like were made in cellular. I am sure PCS technology will not be an exception. Let the big players get in first and lay the ground work. I also feel the rural area should have an extended build out period to allow full development of PCS technology before rural companies are required to invest large sums of money.

The FCC's definition of rural telcos as being a telco which provided service to a community of 2,500 or less. NYNEX might qualify under that standard. I feel that such entities could apply for the set aside frequency blocks only if the entity was in existence as of August 10, 1993, the day Congress passed the PCS auction bill.

Should you have any questions please get back to me.

Very truly yours,
Hartington Telephone Company

Wm. D. Dendinger
Wm. D. Dendinger, Mgr.

cc: Senator J. James Exon
Senator J. Robert Kerrey
Rep. Douglas K. Bereuter